

PLO defers U.N. vote

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Monday it was not pressing for a vote later in the day on a resolution to upgrade its U.N. status. The United States has threatened to withhold its U.N. dues if the General Assembly carries on the PLO observer delegation's status of an observer state, instead of an observer organisation. "We are not pushing for a vote this afternoon," Zahia Terzi, the PLO's U.N. observer, told reporters. He said the resolution was not due to be withdrawn, but he could not say how long the deferral would extend. "The draft resolution is before the General Assembly which is sponsored by the Arab states — and many others I understand are adding their names — we will not vote for an immediate resolution for a vote," Terzi said. "The voting will take place in due time, but not today." Asked if the postponement was at least for the duration of the current assembly session, which adjourns later this month, he repeated: "I said not today." He was also unable to say when a vote might come because "we are not dealing alone in this world. There are other factors which we have to take into consideration. After considering all the other factors, it was decided not to push for a vote today." He declined to specify these factors.

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Pact denounces Czech invasion

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union joined other members of the Warsaw Pact Monday in denouncing the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia, East European sources said. It was the first time Moscow had formally changed its attitude to the crushing of the "Prague spring" reforms, regarded as similar to Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika programme to transform Soviet society. The sources said the denunciation was included in a short declaration issued at the end of a meeting in Moscow of Warsaw Pact leaders at which Gorbachev briefed his allies on his talks with U.S. President George Bush at the summit. (See story below.) "The declaration condemned the 'intervention and interference,'" the sources told *Moscow*. "It was signed by all participants." The Soviet Union was the last member of the alliance to denounce the invasion. Poland and Hungary criticised the action after the introduction there of multi-party systems this year. Other member countries followed suit in the last few weeks of turmoil in Eastern Europe. Romania had denounced the invasion from the outset and refused to take part in it.

King pays tribute to Sharif Zeid, issues policy guidelines to premier-designate

Badran to form new government

By Jordan Times Staff Writers

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Monday accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and designated Mudar Badran to form the next government.

Informants said Badran was holding consultations with "a number of personalities who could be included in the Cabinet" and was expected to announce his government Tuesday.

In a letter of designation to Badran, a former prime minister who served two terms, the King called for "enhancement of the democratic process in the country as witnessed the Nov. 8 general elections and for "strengthened stability and responsible dialogue in the service of national interests."

He paid tribute to Badran's "loyalty, integrity, dedication to national service, wide experience in diplomacy and interaction with public affairs."

The King directed Badran to:

— Pursue contacts and interac-

tion with other countries and governments as well as international organisations towards further boosting relations and in commitment to the principles and objectives of the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and harmony with the country's national interests.

The honour Jordan's existing agreements with other countries and revising such accords to promote cooperation.

Arab affairs

— To remain committed to the Charter of the Arab League and resolutions of Arab summits, particularly in the area of supporting the Palestinian people and cause.

To consider the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) as a "great hope on which Jordan pins its future." Therefore, total commitment must be made to ACC agreements, which aim to bring about total integration and unity," the King's directive said.

To pursue all support for the Palestinian uprising and provide assistance to the families of Palestinian martyrs in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) in extending help to the Palestinians through the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee.

To offer facilities for the Palestinians in a manner that would enhance their steadfastness in cooperation with the PLO in light of Jordan's clear policy based on supporting the Palestinians in exercising their legitimate rights and establish their own independent state on Palestinian soil.

To maintain continued support and assistance for efforts to safeguarding Islamic and Christian holy places in Jerusalem and the Shari'a court and its attributes.

National issues

To extend all care and support for the Armed Forces to enable it to perform its duty to ensure national security and stability, which are the pillars of progress and development.

To ensure that the course of democracy is not limited to Parliament and enhance its concept, providing protection and responsible freedom within the framework of the law. "Public freedoms should be considered as the basis of human rights," the King said. "Democracy means respect and prevalence of the law, which considers all citizens equal regardless of their sex, origin, belief or race. They are equally re-

sponsible before the law and the government must provide them with care and should respect this principle enshrined in the constitution and which serves as the proper means to safeguard the society's fabric and can remove all hostilities and deepen the citizens' loyalty towards their country and the (Arab) Nation."

The government should therefore encourage creative work and offer equal opportunities and public freedom guaranteed by the constitution," the King said.

"Respect for others' views is a main principle of democracy and it means respect for the principle of tolerance as called for by Islam and applied in the Jordanian society. The government should allow and protect tolerance within the law and safeguard national unity."

To provide all forms of services to all parts of the Kingdom.

To give proper attention to the ongoing educational process in the Kingdom, with special focus on training programmes for teachers and education on means to safeguarding the environment.

To develop cultural and youth activities and offer incentives to creative work.

To reexamine the Press and Publication Law in the course of endeavours to promote national education and culture.

To give due attention to scientific research.

To follow up the implementation of measures designed to deal with the problem of unemployment and pockets of poverty in the country through short, medium and comprehensive plans that create jobs in various regions. The government should maintain educational and vocational training programmes and provide the necessary funding for small-size projects to achieve this end.

To build on the success of the previous government in addressing the country's external debt situation and pursue economic reform policies to revitalise the economy. This should be done through:

1. Steering the economic policy towards speeding up economic growth and increasing the investment and production levels.

2. Dealing with imbalances in the national economy resulting from the scarcity of resources and developing the country's mineral, tourism and agricultural resources as best as possible.

3. Intensifying contacts with other countries with a view to increasing Jordan's exports.

4. Stimulating the role of the private sector by introducing the necessary regulations and laws.

5. Speeding up work on a law to combat economic crimes.

6. Supporting small and medium-size projects and increased exploitation of minerals.

7. Pursuing the implementation of the economic reform programme so as to restore economic and social balance to enable the country to control and reduce the financial deficit.

8. Continuing to build the country's reserves of foreign exchange to enhance the Kingdom's balance-of-payments status and stabilise the dinar.

9. Adopting a proper strategy to deal with external debts by providing controls on investments, which should be channelled towards development projects.

Concluding his message, the King said "by the will of God and the cooperation of the people, the country will definitely overcome all hurdles as it did in the past and confront future challenges with self-confidence" and wished Badran and his government success in their mission.

Tribute to Sharif Zeid

In a letter accepting Sharif Zeid's resignation, the King paid tribute to the outgoing premier and voiced deep appreciation for his dedication and hard work.

"You shouldered a great responsibility in coping with matters related to the economic reform programme and in paving the way for a general election that was conducted in a very fair and free manner," the King said.

"You and your colleagues proved to be of high skill and efficiency in handling these issues and helped reflect a very positive and bright image of Jordan while helping safeguard the country's interests," he said.

In his letter of resignation, Sharif Zeid outlined the efforts his government had to exert in the past few

months under royal guidance and referred in particular to the various economic and financial measures that had to be taken in the course of implementing the economic reform programme.

He also referred to ongoing programmes for upgrading public administration and boosting the Armed Forces.

The King met with Sharif Zeid and the outgoing Cabinet at the Royal Court and praised their endeavours and achievements in the last few months. "You placed the interest of the people above everything and achieve success, and this is a source for optimism and confidence for the country in the next phase," the King said.

The King asked the outgoing government to remain in a caretaker capacity until a new Cabinet was formed and assumed office.

Consultations under way

In the meantime, sources said intense consultations were under way between Badran and some of the potential candidates for his Cabinet. According to what was described as a "tentative, revised" list available from sources to the Jordan Times, the following were considered:

(Continued on page 2)

A masked Palestinian protester in Nablus points his machete at a photo of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his slain deputy Khalil Wazir.

Palestinian killed, another hangs himself in prison cell

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian died in Israeli army gunfire Monday and an Arab prisoner in the Gaza Strip, accused of trying to run down soldiers at an army checkpoint in October, hanged himself in his cell.

Hussein Abu Zanat, 17, of Nablus in the West Bank, died of a head wound sustained Nov. 25, a hospital official said.

The Palestinians of the occupied territories staged a general strike to protest against the army's killing of four members of the "Black Panthers" squad.

However, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin conceded that the Palestinian uprising was losing international support and mobilising ever fewer Arab protesters.

"I believe that, when we reach the end of the first two years, the Palestinians have lost all the international scene," Rabin told Reuters in an interview marking this week's second anniversary of the revolt in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The bulk of Palestinians, for almost a year, have not responded to any call for demonstrations; violent or non-violent. All calls for civil disobedience have not really been responded (to), whatsoever."

Rabin said that, by preventing local Arabs from taking up former's offer of elections, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was playing into the hands of Muslim fundamentalists, who were gaining strength.

"Everybody was excited about the PLO — look where they are today," he said.

He also said that if Palestinian activists replaced their stones with firearms "that would be the end of the intifada."

Rabin said Israel had had a comprehensive response to the uprising since May when it proposed holding elections to choose Palestinians to negotiate on their future.

Like other Israeli leaders, he expressed an interest in the PLO's response U.S. proposals for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo, saying that only Egypt's reply counted.

Israeli officials said Egypt had sent its answer to the United States but they did not know its content.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly was due here late Monday to brief Israel on the outcome of the Malta superpower summit and on the latest American-Middle East peace efforts.

Rabin said world attention had shifted from the uprising to what he called the collapse of the Soviet empire and superpower relations.

The imagination is entirely in a different direction from the stone-throwing of the Palestinians," he said.

Rabin said the intifada reached its peak of success in November and December 1988, when the U.N. General Assembly was moved from New York to Geneva for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"Everybody was excited about the PLO — look where they are today," he said.

But Rabin, in charge of Israel's "iron fist" policy in the occupied lands, since 1984, did not claim the uprising was over.

Saying that Israel aimed to restore "relative tranquility" and shore up its "civil administration" of Palestinians in the occupied territories, he said:

"We have not yet achieved these goals in their full meaning.

We have advanced by practically neutralising the bulk of the Palestinians from taking part in violent activities."

He acknowledged that the majority of people in the territories still supported the aims of the uprising's leaders — an independent Palestinian state.

Defending his tough policies of "might, force and beatings" to counter the revolt, he said Israel had to send Palestinians a firm message:

"Forget that by throwing stones or petrol-bombs or by strikes you will change Israel's mind. You will not make us run, territorially or politically."

Vice-Premier Shimon Peres said the winds of change had swept from Eastern Europe into the Middle East and Moscow no longer automatically backed Arab states against Israel.

Peres, who is due to visit Moscow later this month, told reporters: "That the Soviet Union has ceased being a one-sided power on the side of the Arabs in the Middle East is a mighty change.

That the dialogue be held under the auspices of the United

States is a must."

The whole world is changing.

And the Middle East will go the way of Europe."

PLO firm on talks proposal

NICOSIA. (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has conveyed to Washington a conditional acceptance of Secretary of State James Baker's Middle East peace ideas, insisting on a role in a proposed Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and an open agenda for the talks, an official document said Monday.

It was the PLO's "final stance" towards the proposals Baker presented two months ago in support of an Egyptian call for direct Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo, a senior official said.

"We've conveyed our final stance and we hope to receive positive replies," said Salah Khalaf, an aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"Our response stresses that the PLO is the basis for any peace initiative, dialogue or negotiations," he told the AP in a long-distance telephone interview from Tunis.

He said Hakan Balawi, the PLO's representative in Tunis, handed the document Friday to U.S. Ambassador Robert Pelletreau, the only U.S. diplomat authorised to deal with the PLO.

Khalaf said a copy also was conveyed to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

It was the third meeting between Balawi and Pelletreau over the plan in one week, the Palestinian news agency WAFA reported from Tunis.

In Cairo, a government source, insisting on anonymity, confirmed that the foreign ministry had received the document. He said that an Egyptian response to Baker's plan, containing the PLO's position, was conveyed to Washington Sunday.

An Arabic text of document was made available to the AP by the PLO's Information Department in Tunis.

It reiterated the four reservations set by the council which met in Baghdad, Iraq, in October:

— That the dialogue be held between a PLO delegation representing Palestinians inside and outside the Israeli-occupied territories, and an Israeli government delegation;

— That the agenda of the dialogue be open, with no pre-conditions attached, so that each side can raise any issue relevant to the problem, including elections in the occupied territories, and the Egyptian proposals.

— That the dialogue be held under the auspices of the United

Arab panel assails Aoun's defiance, but urges restraint

Fears of assault recede in Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Fears of attack receded in Lebanon's Christian enclave Monday and business resumed after a week of panic.

Thousands of Syrian and Lebanese soldiers still ringed the enclave, poised for an assault to drive General Michel Aoun from the presidential palace, while international moves continued to defuse the crisis.

"Both sides have gone off the boil," a diplomat said. "Both will grow weaker as long as this deadlock grinds on but the possibility of a confrontation cannot be dismissed."

In Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, an Arab League committee in Lebanon accused Aoun of blocking a settlement of the 14-year-old Lebanese civil war, but urged the warring sides to avoid a new military confrontation.

The appeal was made at the end of a two-day meeting of the Arab League in Beirut.

He also has opposed the election of President Elias Hrawi as president 10 days ago.

Hrawi has threatened to use force to topple Aoun, who controls Christian east Beirut and the rest of the enclave. The Syrian-backed Christian Maronites said Friday he had delayed an attack in allow time for foreign mediation.

Businesses reopened in the enclave Monday after a six-day strike to protest against Hrawi's threat.

Schools and colleges stayed closed. Hundreds of students were taken by bus to the palace to reinforce a human shield of Aoun's supporters who have camped there since last Tuesday.

Cabinet sources said Hrawi sent envoys in the past two days to Edward Djerejian, the U.S. ambassador to Damascus. They said Djerejian had asked for Washington to be given a few days to try to persuade Aoun to submit to Hrawi's authority.

SLA militiamen shell Nabatiyeh; Amal, Hizbollah renew clashes

NABATIYEH (Agencies) — The Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia pounded with artillery fire Monday a Shi'ite Muslim market town and a nearby village, killing four people and wounding 18, police said.

The bombardment, just north of Israel's self-designated "security zone," coincided with renewed fighting between the two main Shi'ite militia factions in the southern villages of Sennar and Ynhor.

Police said at least 20 people were killed or wounded in the hostilities between the pro-Iranian Hizbollah, or Party of God, and the mainstream Amal. The police report did not provide a casualty breakdown.

There was no word on what touched off the fighting in a Syrian-controlled area, on the southern edge of the Bekaa Valley.

Amal and Hizbollah have been locked in a 2½-year-old power struggle for control of Lebanon's

which three SLA militiamen were killed and five wounded.

The Lebanese government instructed its U.N. Ambassador Rashid Fakhoury to lodge a complaint with the Security Council against the bombardment, holding Israel responsible for "this recent aggression."

A Foreign Ministry statement said the Lebanese government reserved the right to ask for a Council debate of "the brutal attacks by Israel and its surrogates in South Lebanon."

Israel carved out the security zone in 1985, when it withdrew the bulk of its occupation army, ending a three-year invasion of Lebanon.

Police said one person was killed and 20 wounded over the weekend.

The SLA said in a statement broadcast by its Voice of the South radio station that the bombardment was retaliation for two separate assaults by Shi'ite guerrillas Saturday and Sunday in

Nabatiyeh as they rained tank shells down from a hill inside the buffer zone.

Many residents fled to neighbouring villages. Others huddled in shelters. A Monday market was cancelled.

SLA shelling of Nabatiyeh killed three people previously, the security sources said.

A spokesman for the Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia which controls Nabatiyeh said: "If the shelling continued, we will retaliate against villages held by the SLA."

On Sunday two SLA militiamen were killed in a mine blast in the security zone, border strip set up by Israel in 1985 to protect its northern border from guerrilla attacks.

The Islamic Resistance, a coalition of pro-Iranian Shi'ite groups including Hizbollah (Party of God), said it placed the mines.

On Saturday, the SLA shelled Nabatiyeh after a roadside bomb killed one of its militiamen inside the zone.

1.2 million Shi'ites who make up the country's largest single sect.

By police count, at least 535 people have been killed and 1,490 wounded in Amal-Hizbollah clashes since May 1987.

It was the third consecutive day that the market town of Nabatiyeh and neighbouring Kfar Ramman, which have a combined population of 140,000 people, have come under SLA artillery fire.

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Security sources said SLA militiamen gunned hit scores of houses and destroyed six cars in Nabatiyeh as they rained tank shells down from a hill inside the buffer zone.

The following are tipped to be proposed members of the Badran Cabinet: Ibrahim Izzeddin (culture and information), Abdulla Nour

(planning), Shafiq Zawadeh (housing and public works), Sa'id Al Tal (education), Ihsaq Al Farhan (higher education), Anis Musheer (health), Ahmad Al Azzaieh (municipal affairs and the environment), Mohammad Abdouh Al Zaben (telecommunications), Tamer Hikmat (transport), Saleh Arabyat (agriculture), Abdulla Al Klyeh (labour), Ali Fazir (Awqaf) and Mohammad Abu Farz (justice).

Dr. Abdul Latif Arabyat, a deputy

spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, confirmed that the group, which claims 21 members of the Lower House of Parliament and 13 other "Islamic supporters" in the House, had received "offers of Cabinet posts and discussions were continuing."

It also appeared that some of the proposed names obtained by the Jordan Times Sunday were "provisional" pending the outcome of consultations with the Brotherhood.

Badran to form new government

(Continued from page 1)

Nations and all five permanent members of the Security Council, in addition to Egypt and Sweden.

— That the dialogue be a preliminary step towards convening an international Middle East peace conference under U.S. supervision and on the basis of international legitimacy. It will be attended by all parties to the conflict and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Israeli officials refused to comment on any statements by the PLO but said they were waiting for Egypt's response to the Baker proposal.

In the occupied territories, leading nationalists endorsed the PLO's response.

"The Palestinian response was positive and in harmony with our people's desire to achieve peace," said Radwan Abu Ayash, head of the Jerusalem-based Arab Journalists Association.

Bashir Barghouthi, editor of the Al Tali'a Arabic weekly, said the PLO's stand was good since it was based on resolutions of the Palestine Central Council.

Barghouthi, a leading West Bank Palestinian commentator, said no one should expect more concessions from the PLO. "It is not realistic to expect a party's acceptance of conditions that accept its existence," he said.

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bank of the Manila Bay waterfront were damaged in the first blast, and one customer was injured in the second explosion outside an Ermita restaurant, police said.

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Police said they were investigating possible rebel involvement in the two explosions.

Three cars parked outside the

reporter late Sunday: "We will continue to fight until we get our political objective" — the resignation of Aquino.

The mutinous soldiers claim Aquino, swept to power in a 1986 military-civilian uprising that ousted President Ferdinand Marcos, has failed to deal effectively with the country's Communist insurgency and economic problems.

One of the coup leaders was Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, a cashiered lieutenant colonel who once supported Aquino but later led an Aug. 1 1987 attempt to overthrow her.

Most provincial garrisons did not join the mutiny, but there were indications of widespread support among junior and mid-grade officers.

In Manila, guards arrested an army sergeant who tried to bomb the news conference by Ramos and de Villa, an official said Monday. Romy Aquino, who is no relation to the president, was moving towards the officials with a grenade when arrested Sunday afternoon, said Oscar Floredo, chief of the military's civil relations colonel Rafael Galvez, told a

reporter late Sunday: "We will continue to fight until we get our political objective" — the resignation of Aquino.

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National News

Masa'adeh returns from Cairo meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masa'adeh returned to Amman Monday following his participation in the Arab Ministers of Interior Council meeting in Cairo at the head of a Jordanian delegation.

The meeting which ended Sunday evening endorsed a plan to provide support for the Palestinian people's uprising and approved a report on the implementation of an Arab Centre for Security Studies.

The council meeting also endorsed plans and programmes by the Arab police chiefs and studied a pan-Arab strategy for combatting drug trafficking.

The Amman-based office for combatting narcotics was represented at the meeting in Cairo by its director Brigadier Hashem Al Qasai.

Before leaving Cairo, Masa'adeh called for a pan-Arab security strategy which, he said, can provide greater measure of security for Arab countries and Arab citizens.

In an interview with the Cairo newspaper Mayo, the minister noted that immense changes have occurred in the Arab World presenting a real challenge for the Arab countries security services.

Jordanian nominated for Canadian award

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Culture has nominated Yousef Khasho for the Glenn Gould International Award for 1990 for his immense contributions to music on the Arab and international levels. Khasho, a Jordanian, has been nominated for the award which is offered by the Canadian Council for Arts in Toronto for his specializations in classical music and his contributions for the establishment of

numerous music conservatories in the Arab World, according to a statement by the ministry. Khasho is a well known Jordanian musician who composed the Jerusalem Symphony, a mixture between Arab and Western music. The Canadian award is granted once every three years.

Glenn Gould was a renowned Canadian pianist born in Toronto in 1932 and died in 1982.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES THAILAND: His Majesty King Hussein sent a congratulatory cable Monday to Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej on his country's National Day. King Hussein wished the Thai king continued good health and happiness and that people further progress and prosperity. (Petra)

LAZWI RECEIVES SOVIET ENVOY: Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk called on Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and conveyed to him congratulations from the Supreme Soviet (the USSR parliament) on Lawzi's reappointment as speaker of the Upper House. The ambassador wished Lawzi continued success in his mission (Petra).

LOWER HOUSE TO HOLD 3RD SESSION: The Lower House of Parliament will hold its third session on Wednesday at 10 a.m. During the session the House will elect the permanent committees of the Lower House (Petra).

ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS: Jordan's Ambassador to Australia Saad Al Bataineh has presented his credentials in Canberra to Australian Prime Minister Bill Hayden. Bataineh conveyed to Hayden His Majesty King Hussein's greetings and wishes for Australia's further progress and development (Petra).

ACC LAND TRANSPORT: Officials in charge of land transport in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries have discussed in Amman subjects related to transport and prepared a draft agreement to be submitted to the ACC ministerial meeting in Sana'a. The meeting was held in implementation of a decision by ACC ministers of transport in Baghdad last month (Petra).

SOCIAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL TALKS: Jordan will take part in the meetings of the Arab Social Affairs Ministers Council to start in Tunis Tuesday. The ministers will discuss in the three-day meetings ways of promoting joint Arab cooperation in the field of social development and issues related to Arab women and children. Jordan's delegation to the meetings will be headed by ambassador in Tunis Talal Safan Al Hassan (Petra).

CONTEST: The Swissair contest ended Sunday at Safeway International and the winners, Hind Abdul Jalil and Tayyar Kamel, won a free round-trip ticket to Los Angeles on Swissair's newest route (J.T.).

NRA seminar discusses uses of Tripoli stone

AMMAN (Petra) — The uses of "Tripoli stone" and powder which is found in abundance in Jordan was the theme of a one-day seminar organised Monday by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) in a bid to orient the public on the various types of minerals found in the kingdom.

According to Mohammad Abu Ajamieh, acting NRA director general, the mineral is found in four large areas extending from Zarqa, north of Amman, to Shobak, in the southern regions of

Jordan, and is used in industry on a large scale.

Abu Ajamieh, who opened the session said the Tripoli stone is a sedimentary mineral containing a great deal of silicon and can be used in Jordan or sold to foreign markets.

He said that the stone which can be crushed into powder is used for cleansing purposes, and is used in the manufacture of soap, insecticides and in the cosmetics industry.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

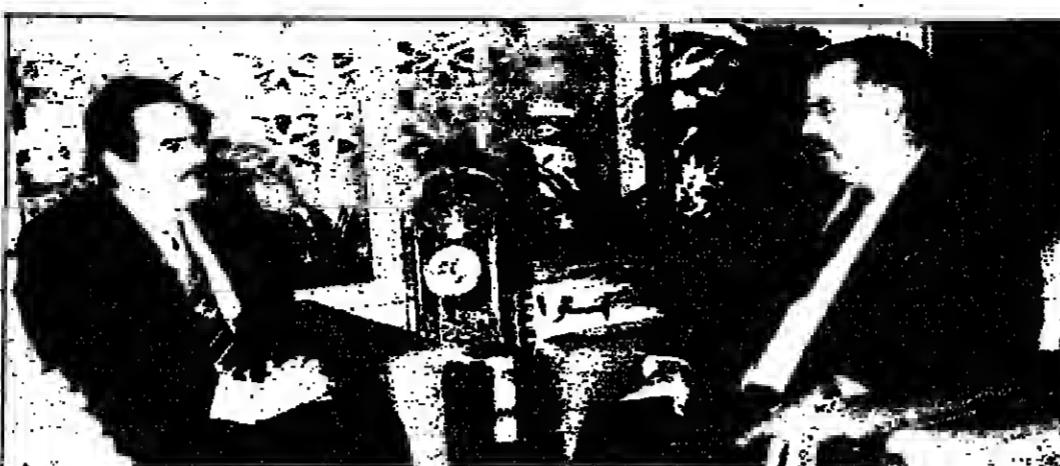
- ★ An exhibition of paintings and etchings inspired by Arabic Islamic art at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.
- ★ An art exhibition by artists from Jordan and other Arab countries at Al Wasif Gallery, Plaza Hotel.
- ★ Book exhibition at the University of Yarmouk.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ghassan Al Husni, Abid Atwan and Abdulsalam Nawafash at the Jordanian Public Artists Association, Shmeisani.
- ★ An art exhibition of water colours by Jordan artist Ahmad Ismail at the Gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental.
- ★ An exhibition organised by the Goethe Institute entitled "The Blue Rider" at the Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Shaker Murji at the British Council.
- ★ A book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

PANEL DISCUSSION

- ★ A panel discussion by Rami Abu Ali Mahmoud Al Rihawi and Muhammad Al Zaher on "the cultural role of Arabs residing outside the occupied territories toward the intifada" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture entitled "Qualifications of Gemstones: Examples from Jordan and the World" by Dr. Sabhi Nasir at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.



Arar receives Iraqi ambassador

Lower House of Parliament Speaker Saleh Arar Monday received in his office the Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Nouri Ismail who congratulated him on being elected Lower House of Parliament speaker. The Iraqi ambassador submitted an invitation from the Speaker of the Iraqi Consultative Council Saadi Mahdi Saleh to Arar and members of the Parliamentary Committee of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) in the Jordanian parliament to attend the first meeting of the committee due to convene in Baghdad on Jan. 14. Arar also received ACC Secretary General Hilmu Naamari who congratulated him on being elected speaker of the parliament. The Iraqi ambassador submitted an invitation from the Speaker of the Iraqi Consultative Council Saadi Mahdi Saleh to Arar and members of the Parliamentary Committee of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) in the Jordanian parliament to attend the first meeting

Environment ministers, experts begin regional talks in Amman Wednesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministers in charge of environment and the ecology in the Arab World and specialists from various countries will converge on Amman Wednesday for a two-day meeting on the environment and development which will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Several working papers dealing with environmental issues around the world in general and in the

Arab countries in particular, as well as policies to be adopted to protect the environment in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) strategy, will be reviewed by the participants, according to an announcement here Monday.

The announcement said that two working papers, one dealing with economic and social development versus the environment,

Seminar opens on demographic implications of Arab migration

Samra blames policies, government for migration

AMMAN (Petra) — A six-day seminar on demographic and socio-economic implications of the international migration in the Arab World opened at the University of Jordan Monday with the participation of nearly 70 specialists from Jordan and the Arab World.

University President Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra, who represented His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, addressed the opening session outlining the migration of teachers and students and the brain drain in general.

Samra referred to the governments and their policies as the main cause behind the migration.

Dr. George Qassas, who represented the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) at the meeting, also dwelt in his address on the causes of migration, citing in particular migration of Arab people

from North Africa to Europe and Arab countries to the oil rich Gulf states for work.

The migration of workers has had deep effects on social and economic life in the countries which import and export workers," Qassas said.

Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) representative Amin Faris presented an outline of the various topics to be discussed by the participants and said that more detailed discussions on migration will be taken up by an enlarged meeting which will be organised by the ALO in Cairo.

Jordan to observe U.N.-initiated International Volunteers Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will observe the International Volunteer Day Tuesday which is an annual event initiated by the United Nations in 1986.

The day reminds the public of the immense benefits of voluntary service conducted by Jordanian volunteers in all fields and at all levels, according to Yousef Abu Dayyeh, coordinator of the United Nations Volunteer Programme in Jordan.

Abu Dayyeh, speaking on the eve of the anniversary said that voluntary work in the Kingdom is not restricted to the Ministry of Social Development or the charitable societies, "but it is rather spread all over the country."

He said that United Nations delegation visited Jordan last July and examined various volunteers projects being conducted in the Kingdom through a number of

ministries and the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

He said that agreement was then reached to involve Jordanian volunteers in United Nations voluntary programmes to serve in agricultural, engineering, health, manpower development, social work and other fields around the world.

The Civil Service Commission which serves as a liaison between the volunteers and the United Nations programme has nominated 56 Jordanians to be involved in these U.N.-sponsored schemes, Abu Dayyeh said.

According to Dr. Abdullah Al Khath, chairman of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan, the Kingdom has 450 charitable or voluntary societies grouping 45,000 volunteers "who work relentlessly to serve their community."

On last year's anniversary, a ceremony was held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to honour distinguished Jordanian volunteers.

According to U.N. officials here the U.N.-sponsored programme provides allowances for people sent outside their respective countries. At present, they said, there are more than 5,000 people working in this programme all over the world.

The Civil Service Commission which serves as a liaison between the volunteers and the United Nations programme has nominated 56 Jordanians to be involved in these U.N.-sponsored schemes, Abu Dayyeh said.

In December last year, Prince Hassan announced the establishment of a specialised organisation to pursue and follow up efforts to extend support for victims of natural disasters in the Arab and Islamic World to serve on a voluntary basis.

5 Arab League states discuss education in occupied lands

TUNIS (Petra) — Education in the Israeli-held Arab territories is the theme of a five-day meeting at the Arab League Headquarters here which began Monday.

Delegates from Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon and Palestine are taking part in the meeting which will discuss the impact of continued Israeli occupation of Arab land on Arab schools and universities and on the education

of the Arab children in general.

The delegates will also focus attention on the adverse effects of Israeli-imposed curricula on Arab schools and ways through which the Arab League in general and countries directly involved in Palestinian refugees affairs in particular can provide help to the Palestinian students.

The delegates will look into a plan that can be implemented in this respect and offer education to the Palestinian children free from Israeli influences, the officials said.

They said that such a plan could be implemented by becoming involved in international programmes to the Palestinian students.

Mother Goose's golden Xmas — a present from the heart

By Hind-Lara Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the Royal Theatre Company in aid of the Jordanian Save the Children Fund, is holding its Christmas play "Mother Goose's Golden Christmas."

The play, which is performed at the Royal Cultural Centre, is a combination of nursery rhyme characters fitted into one story. Characters include little Bo-Peep (Lexi Haddadin), little Miss Muffet (Maggie Kabariti), and her spider (Jean-Philippe Amour), little Tomy Tucker (Michelle Hashem), little Jack Horner (Nick Bowley), and of course, Mother Goose (Jan Cross). The plot consists of the interaction of these characters through their various squabbles with each other. They are

fed-up with being called "little," and so Mother Goose decides to create them a new adventure story rather than the nursery rhymes they are told daily. This is her Christmas present to them — a story from the heart.

Kay Mukhar is directing this play. It is her first attempt as she has only helped in the directing of previous productions by Vanessa Batrouni.

Now director and actress have switched roles; Batrouni is herself acting in the play as the aptly named "Fairy Lethargia". Unlike other fairies, this one is more concerned with her beauty sleep than with spells. She spends most of the story snoring away in the red wooden Christmas decoration box. Appearing in her crumpled up white dress, and her crown half drooping over one eye, she manages to drag herself into conjuring much

needed spells. The characters are faced with the problem of rescuing Gertrude (Gaynor Peridakis), the goose that lays the golden eggs, for the wicked giant. The latter is created in absentia through what we hear being said of him, and his back stage voice.

Lyrics, music, and script are written by David Wood who also wrote "The Ginger Bread Man" which was performed by the same group last year.

There is a total of eleven actors and actresses some of whom also have triple roles. For instance, Amour plays the roles of the spider, giant's voice, and Santa Claus.

The stage, designed by Naval Abdullah Kattan, is divided

into two sections; the background in the introductory scene is a huge big book with

Mother Goose written on it in green, and closed with a green ribbon. A Christmas tree is

also to be found with its colourful decorations and twinkling multi-coloured lights.

Thus, a real atmosphere of festivity is achieved. As the action develops the book is unfolded giving way to a colourful rural scene. In it the giant's castle can be seen in the far distance, and a cow flying over a smiling moon.

The dual painting effort put in by artists Abdullah and Iqbal Shukri-Tannir has made the foreground look like an area in a forest. Bushes lie here and there with a large bright red mushroom with white poka-dots to one side.

The characters themselves come out of the story book dancing and singing to Eileen Bonneville's piano playing. They are in continuous motion among the two stage sections, and the audience.

Mother Goose, who is a teacher for the disabled in real life, fits into her part like a hand into a glove, so to speak. She is portrayed as a sympathetic grandmotherly character — warm, understanding, and loving. One could almost say that she is prim and proper without negative implications. This element serves as a humorous contrast to the later "Mother Goose in her undies" scene, for her clothes are stolen by the two evil wolves. They are basically the giant's servants who are ordered to bring back the escaped goose.

The bigger haddar wolf acted by Richard Hillebrand is domineering in character and takes every opportunity to belittle the other neurotic wolf. A modern touch is found here when the weak wolf is revealed to be a tranquilliser addict.

It seems that this wolf is finding it difficult to deal with life's pressures! One must add though that Ruthy Baker has excelled in making this character as real as possible. The different positions required in portraying a cowardly, and neurotic figure are mastered

well in the bent back, fluttering hands, and howling cries.

The play's duration is one hour and forty five minutes "so when I knew that we were going to do the play in the smaller studio theatre, I had to adapt the script so as to involve the child audience," says Mukhar.

Accordingly, there are written parts in the programmes distributed which direct the children in answering questions asked by the actors.

The cast is basically a mixture of students, teachers, and even principals. All have been acting in the different countries that they have come from.



Little Miss Muffet played by Maggie Kabariti (Photos by Osman Akuz)

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Mother Goose and her team

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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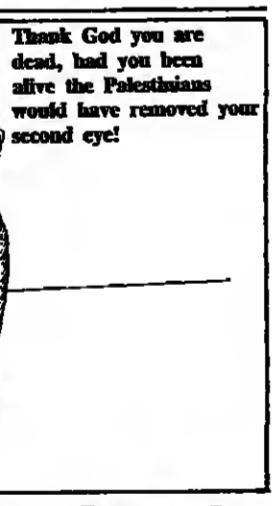
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The stage is set

WITH the replies of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament to the speech from the throne submitted Sunday, the stage is now set for turning a new page in Jordan's parliamentary life. To begin with a new cabinet is projected to be formed with former Prime Minister Mudar Badran as the new prime minister. Badran, a man of wide experiences and reputed to be very close to the pulse of his countrymen, both political and economic, can be projected to offer the kind of leadership that the new situation requires. His closeness to the people and awareness of their needs, aspirations and woes stems most of all from his populist character which shuns contact with one strata of Jordanians and not the other. Often characterised as having an iron fist policy against corruption and abuse of authority, he also has the reputation of being soft-hearted when it comes to the rights and grievances of the weak and those whose rights have been abused or violated. Rectification of errors in judgment and decisions can therefore be projected to be among his early priorities.

Still the new prime minister cannot be expected to address all the needs of the new era without the cooperation of the other branches of the government on the top of which is, of course, the Lower House of the Parliament. Having been directly elected by the people of Jordan in a free and democratic national elections, the members of the Lower House are the closest public officials to the political and economic tempo of their constituencies. The new prime minister can be expected therefore to draw heavily on their value judgments and views yet maintain his independence in making his own decisions as indeed the Constitution so stipulates.

The best thing that could occur to the country under the new circumstances is to have a positive working relation between the executive and legislative branches of government with the judiciary acting as the arbiter of differences of jurisdictional and competence issues. To begin with, this constructive relations will start when the new Parliament will, as anticipated, accord the new cabinet its vote of confidence. After all this is done and finished, the country can get back to business in order to begin the process of translating at least some of the popular views into actions. It is a safe bet that the new government, in all its new branches, will deal first with the policies that enjoy consensus among the people and then turn to issues on which there are genuine and responsible differences of opinions. Prime Minister Badran's closeness to the various currents in the country would make him an ideal person to deal with them most effectively.



JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i and the other Arabic dailies on Monday tackled the replies to the King's speech from the throne by Upper and the Lower House of Parliament. Both replies, it is said, proved that members of Parliament are united in their endeavours to serve their country and their King. The replies to the speech from the throne presented to the King an outline of the work which Parliament is bracing itself to carry out in the military, economic, cultural and social fields, and pointed out the immense challenges the country is now facing, the paper noted. It said that one can feel from the replies a dedication and devotion on the part of Parliament members to confront these challenges and this is a very satisfactory development which will please the Jordanian citizens. What is more important, the paper said, is the determination expressed by the Parliament members to work hand in hand with the executive authority in all matters and to achieve the aspired goals.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily refers Monday to a tendency on the part of the Eastern European countries to restore diplomatic relations with Israel, a development which does not forebode well for the Arabs. Mahmoud Al Rimawi says in his column that restoration of relations between Tel Aviv and the Eastern Bloc would certainly encourage the Jewish state to harden its position and even escalate its repression against the Arab people of Palestine. The writer notes however that Moscow is taking another view despite the fact that it was the first to initiate the liberal movement in Eastern Europe. The writer notes with satisfaction Moscow's decision to link any restoration of relations with Tel Aviv to the latter's acceptance of the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland and a lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The writer urges the Arab countries to unite their position with regard to this move on the part of Eastern Europe and take proper action to prevent such development from happening.

Al Dostour daily commented Monday on the replies by the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament to the speech from the throne. The paper said that the replies showed, beyond doubt that the Jordanian people, represented by their deputies in Parliament are united behind their King and behind the country's objectives which they will seek to achieve.

More moves towards democracy

By the Associated Press

WORLD leaders in politics, science and the arts predict an acceleration of moves towards democracy in the 1990s, and growing concern about the environment. Here are some of their predictions. Unless otherwise indicated, their comments were made to the Associated Press.

Valery Giscard D'Estaing, French statesman and former president

"The Soviet Union's exit from Communism appears to be the most difficult process to manage in the next 10 years. No doubt it will involve periods of economic order and high inflation, and also political convulsions.

"As the states of Eastern Europe move rather quickly towards the European model, the Soviet Union will seek a separate way, whose definition it probably will not be able to find soon. This will lead it to remain in a state of uncertainty and strong internal tension."

Mikhail S. Gorbachev, Soviet President

"It's impossible to project the usual, traditional understanding of progress into the 21st century. On the agenda is working out some kind of rational needs of mankind, accounting for the resources of energy and raw materials, the demands of ecology and demographics and, of course, the necessity of liquidating the gap between the small group of developed countries and dozens of others, especially the Third World..."

"The new civilisation, the formation of which has already begun, won't be a uniform monolith. On the contrary, its ability to live lies in a multi-varianceness and multi-facetedness of the spiritual, national, social, political and cultural." (From a speech July 5 at the Sorbonne in Paris)

Lester R. Brown, President of the U.S.-based Worldwatch Institute

"The 90s promise to be the environmental decade, a time when environmental trends increasingly will shape economic trends. Rising world grain prices will likely be the first economic indicator to signal trouble in the relationship between ourselves, now numbering 5.2 billion, and the natural systems and resources on which we depend ... As the decade unfolds, the degradation of

the planet will begin showing up at harvest time.

"Reversing the deterioration of the planet will require governments everywhere to redefine security, recognising that the principal threat to our future come less from military aggression and more environmental degradation. ... We either will reverse the degradation of the planet and move towards an environmentally sustainable economy or environmental degradation and economic decline will begin to feed on each other."

Bai Hua, leading Chinese poet and playwright

"Developments in the 1990s will be closer to the hopes of the common people. Changes in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and Asia all illustrate this point. Also people are becoming more and more concerned with man's living environment, not only in the relationship between people. I think there is hope."

Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Norwegian prime minister

"I hope that we will see an increased democratisation in Eastern Europe but also in other parts of the world and that human rights everywhere will be raised to a higher standard. People are more aware of the world economy and the world's ecology than was the case when we go back even one decade."

Margaret Thatcher, British prime minister

"Global environment — protecting the ozone layer, working towards combatting the greenhouse effect — are problems we must tackle together. On the political front, while maintaining a strong NATO, we should continue to work for further nuclear disarmament. He must also continue to encourage the democratisation process in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, where we have seen such encouraging developments recently. The prospects for progress in South Africa are also very much at the front of our minds. Closer to home, we shall need to ensure that Britain and its European Community partners develop into a truly common market."

Hanae Mori, Japanese fashion designer

"The 1990s will be the era of

globalism. It will be anachronistic to wrap people with animal furs, for we'll be able to create or synthesise beautiful fur-like things to wrap us with. In the 1990s, the synthetic products may be superior. People will be looking to the 21st century and will seek a well-balanced life. We will think of our world not as different nationalities but as 'earth people.' Men, animals and plants all have to live in well-balanced equilibrium." (From remarks to reporters)

Gareth Evans, Australian foreign minister

"The nineties will unquestionably belong to the Asia-Pacific region, which already has displaced the Atlantic as the centre of gravity of world production. This will happen even though Europe becomes a single market in 1992. As the trend toward 'globalism' continues there is likely to be a revival of multilateralism as a means of solving common problems such as chemical weapons, AIDS and environmental issues."

Giovanni Spadolini, Italian senate president and former Italian prime minister

"If East-West opposition is rapidly coming to its conclusion, on the international stage the North-South relationship constitutes without doubt the decisive challenge to build new balances under the sign of peace and civil coexistence. ... Over the great dramas of our time, we have to build a big arch of solidarity, overcoming every difference. ... Speaking about the situation in the Communist countries, I will say that the political changes in these countries are also helping sports relations. The Olympic games in Seoul were perhaps the best ever because there was a very good political ambience in the world."

Anibal Cavaco Silva, Portuguese prime minister

"We have seen an astonishing turnaround in Eastern Europe, with the retreat of Communism, the weakening of Socialism. The hidden voices of democracy, of the rights of man, of freedom of expression have emerged. I hope all these aspirations continue in this way into the last decade of the 20th century. I'd like to see a Europe from the Urals to the Atlantic with a model of society that we the Portuguese know as the most correct and just ... this is the great movement of the cen-

tury."

Julio M. Sanguinetti, Uruguayan president

"The next decade for our continent will unfold in terms of the following issues: the modernisation of the democratic state, economic reasonableness, the access by our societies to appropriate technology. Latin American integration, narcotics as a phenomenon of society's values and conflicts, the foreign debt, protectionism by industrialised countries. These issues constitute, in my judgment, the determining ingredients of the debates about democratic stability and peace, which are our permanent goals."

Butros Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs

"The two-way (U.S.-Soviet) polarisation that marked the last four decades will disappear completely and will be replaced by multilateral polarisation. Unless South-South dialogue is deepened and unless the North revives dialogue with the South, the present East-West detente will be at the expense of the countries of the south."

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee

"We have to face some dangers. One of the dangers is doping but I think with the help of the governments and the international federations, we will win this fight. ... Commercialisation is very necessary but we have to avoid its controlling sports. ... Speaking about the situation in the Communist countries, I will say that the political changes in these countries are also helping sports relations. The Olympic games in Seoul were perhaps the best ever because there was a very good political ambience in the world."

J. Michael Bishop, U.S. cancer biologist and co-winner of the 1989 Nobel Prize in medicine

"The prospect that seems most important to me is the potential that our position as a pre-eminent nation in scientific research may be eroded. I attribute it to the decline in real funding for fundamental research. And to a decline in public education. ... I think our nation is in danger of not taking intellect seriously

enough, of not disciplining ourselves and not continuing on the creative course we're on."

"Not even the parents of affluent children take the education of their children as seriously as they should. They look to it as an avenue to material success; They do not look to it for enrichment of adult life."

"I'm concerned about the politics of greed. If you appeal to the material aspirations of people, you get elected. That's been honest to a fine skill... The public no longer cares about the creative side of life."

Desmond Tutu, South African Anglican archbishop

"We are discovering a fundamental law of our human existence — that we are made for interdependence with one another and with the rest of creation. Consequently there will be increasing revulsion with the arms race, with an increase in people's participation in the peace movement. The big powers will persuade their surrogates and clients to make peace in their respective areas."

"There will be an upsurge of concern for human rights and interest in participatory styles of government. Perhaps we will realise that people count more than things and material possessions and we will all be involved in the green revolution and its concerns about ecology and pollution and the ozone layer. AIDS and poverty will draw us closer together."

Chatichai Choonhaven, prime minister of Thailand

"It is... evident that nations throughout the world are now attaching more importance to achieving higher levels of economic well-being at home as the best guarantee of... long-term national security... So, as we look ahead to the 1990s, I have no doubt that we will see a lessening of conflict and confrontation. It will be a time when nations will be seeking a more peaceful international climate in order to focus greater attention to the task of economic development."

Mahathir Mohammad, prime minister of Malaysia

"Development in relations between the superpowers promise, for the first time since the war, a broadbased and an unpre-

cedented agenda for political and economic cooperation. Less heartening is that we enter the next decade with the economic issues of the eighties unresolved. And, equally disheartening, apartheid is still with us." (From an address to the Commonwealth conference this month in Kuala Lumpur)

Ilya Prigogine, Belgian winner of the 1977 Nobel Prize in chemistry

"The science of the next century will see the emergence of a new relationship between human beings and nature. It will be a science of the incomplete, one that contains probabilistic aspects and does not try to fit all natural phenomena into scientific laws. Rather, it will deal with the duality of a science of laws and one of events." (Paraphrased in the Japanese newspaper Youmin Shinbun following a Youmin symposium)

Geoffrey Palmer, New Zealand prime minister

"There is a danger that rapid economic growth in some parts of the developing world could be mistakenly interpreted as the end of the problems of economic imbalance between developed and developing countries. In the 1990s, the international community must sustain its commitment to development assistance efforts for deprived countries and the poorest people within those countries. 'Sustainable development' — development of resources without degradation of the environment — will be the catchword of the next decade."

Naguib Mahfouz, Egyptian winner of the 1988 Nobel literature prize

"At present in the Third World, readership has diminished because people are preoccupied with their problems, their economic problems. Art and literature are not flourishing. But hopefully inflation will decrease, and at least a small base of literature will be formed."

Bob Hope, American comedian

"I am happy that comedies with family themes are coming back. They are making nice movies (less risque) now back home, and I am happy with this change. I think the audience is ready for it." (From an address in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia).

Six months after, Peking still has to rule by force

By Mark O'Neill
Reuter

PEKING — Six months after its troops crushed student-led protest with heavy loss of life, the Peking leadership must still rely on force to remain in power, unable to convince its people that such violence was necessary.

Foreign analysts and some Chinese said opposition to the government was widespread, despite martial law in Peking, arrests and interrogations nationwide and daily propaganda against the protesters.

On the night of June 3, troops and tanks moved into central Peking, killing hundreds, perhaps thousands of people. The event, the highest use of the army against civilians in 40 years of Communism, continues to dominate the public mind.

"Why did they have to shoot?" said an old Peking woman, reflecting the views of many that they can express only in private. "If they had used batons and tear gas, people would have understood and would not feel the way they do."

"The government has lied to us," said a medical worker. "It has not given the real death toll and expressed no regret for the thousands of ordinary people killed or injured."

The official line, repeated in a thousand speeches and newspaper articles, is that the protests developed into a rebellion aimed at overthrowing the Communist party and the Socialist system and had to be put down.

"In one way, the government was right," a Western diplomat said. "If it had given in to the student demands, that would have started reforms that would have changed the kind of Communist rule we have seen in the last 40 years.

"What the event also showed is that China is a pre-modern society. The constitution is not worth the paper it is written on. The key decisions were taken not by parliament, not by the cabinet or even the party politburo but a group of veteran leaders, some with no formal post," he said.

"The only way to explain what happened is that China is an empire, where all obey the orders

from number one," he said.

The events of that night have had profound repercussions, both at home and abroad, and may be seen in future as a turning point in the nation's history.

Abroad, it led to a cut-off in new loans and political contacts from the Western world, reversing a 10-year trend in which China moved away from self-imposed isolation.

Domestically, it led to the downfall of party chief Zhao Ziyang, the freezing of many of his reform policies and a hardline leftist ideology reminiscent of the cold war.

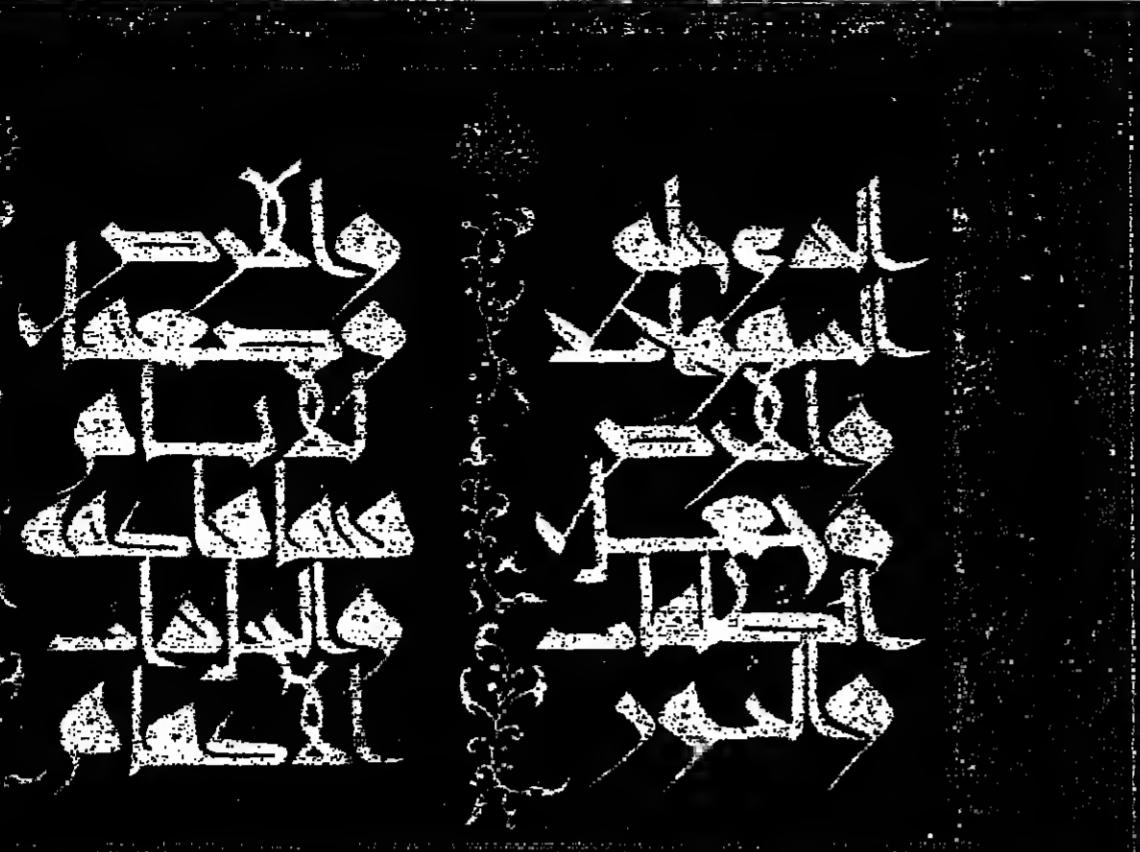
This has resulted in increasing isolation not only from the West but also from East Europe whose countries have since June been moving rapidly in the opposite direction.

He said domestic difficulties would be blamed on the foreigners, as in the early 1960s when widespread famine was blamed on the overnight withdrawal of thousands of Soviet experts.

The leaders have good reason to be nervous about the economy. While a 14-month austerity programme has succeeded in dramatically slowing record inflation and excess growth, it has also led to factory shutdowns, rising unemployment and loan defaults.

With the slowdown in foreign loans, repayment of \$44 billion in foreign debts has suddenly become a major concern. Peking has said vital imports, such as steel and other raw materials, will have to be cut to service the debt.

Next year, Peking will also have to repay 30 billion yuan (\$8.1 billion) in domestic debt to its citizens, and repayment will continue to soar after years of budget deficits.



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Egyptian...
Nob...
offers us the works of two creative...
women, Na'mat Al Naser, a...
graphic artist, and Larissa Najjar,...
has...
Na'mat Al Naser...
studies...
College of Fine Arts. She now...
But...
teaches...
Institute...
of Fine...
Arts in...
Arman...
of...
Na'mat's exhibited works range...
from her earliest trials to her latest, more mature work. It...
shows a constant development, that...
great leaps forward, a growing...
sensitivity to shades and values. She...
moves from naturalistic to...
expressionistic work, going deep...
into her personal spirit, her...
happy psyche. The curvilinear outline of...
her 'hugging figures' is repeated...
in an...
constantly, showing the reverberations...
of the drama in the scene.

Other scenes depict the strife of a...
nation'. As the first works swell...
into depths of feeling through...
coercive...
curvilinearity, the latter ones stand in...
more structured shapes, squares...
and rectangles, with bodies...
stretching upward with pain and...
courage. All this stands in full...
contrast to her local, rural landscapes...
that lack both feeling and...
stability. This might be because...
she has to look outside herself to...
depict such scenes, her...
realistic vision obviously lacks...
soul since one cannot find it in the...
same harmony and unity...
prevailing in her more expressionistic...
works, those derived from her...
inner feelings rather than her...
visual observation of the outside...
world. Her forte, however, is her...
power over the human body,...
stretching it to its limit, rocking...
it around, all this to serve the...
expression that she wants it to...
convey.

In one of her graphic works,...
she renders two ropes, hooked...
together at the centre and being...
pulled out into extreme tension. This...
is accentuated by the...
centrifugal circles that emanate gradually...
from the centre out, gradating...
from dark to light. A drop of liquid falls from that...
centre of tension... sweat or...
blood? Whatever the imagery,...
the feeling is masterfully...
conveyed.

This is the first of two articles on women artists in Jordan.

By Nelly Lame

THE CITY OF AMMAN has experienced an upheaval of women artists. Every gallery

offers us the works of two creative...
women, Na'mat Al Naser, a...
graphic artist, and Larissa Najjar,...

has...
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from the centre out, gradating...
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centre of tension... sweat or...
blood? Whatever the imagery,...
the feeling is masterfully...
conveyed.

Some works have a deeper,...
more voluminous rendering, such as...
the Picasso-like intermixing of...
features that recall the same...
sarcasm expression mentioned before.

Larissa also displays wood

structures, some of which depict

zoomorphic as well as zoomorphic

shapes, with a deep brown-black

patina. Some stand elegantly outlined

against the lighter background

while others are huddled in a mass, showing protrusions in

all directions. There are thick at

times and straw-like at others,

which makes the basic shape

richer and more interesting. Here

again one is invited to turn

around the shape, but is he seeking

unity, or looking for it within

the variety?

A well-priced exhibition that is

worth seeing.

ABDEL-HAMID SHOO-

MAN FOUNDATION displays

in its exhibition hall the work of

two women, Khairat Al-Saleh

(Syrian) and Yola Nami

(Lebanese), both artists use Ara-

bic calligraphy as the basic sub-

ject matter in their works.

KAHIRAT AL-SALEH, born

in Jerusalem of Syrian parents

studied in Damascus and Cairo

before leaving for London where

she studied English poetry and

drama. A true 'Renaissance

woman' she wants to learn all the

arts and experience them. She

composes music, writes books

(Her book 'Myths and Legends

of the Arab World' is being sold

at the exhibition), she has tried

her hand at ceramics, stained

glass, painting on textiles, etc.

The works she exhibits at the

moment are highly decorative,

minutely worked, colourful

etchings of calligraphy, set within

a frame in the style of old Arab

and Islamic illuminated manu-

scripts which derive from Byzan-

tine and Syrian precedents. She

adds colour and gold leaf to her

etchings, not being totally satisfied

with the effect of aquatint. Every

edition of her work bears differ-

ent colours making it inherently

different from any other. The

same etching coloured hue is

spiritual and romantic while

coloured green it acquires a very

down to earth vegetative quality.

Using two verses of 'The Cre-

ation' in old Kufic script, solemnly

painted in gold on a deep blue

ground, she frames them with a

highly colourful painting of the

planets rendered in scientific de-

tails. 'Creation II' is framed with

a paradisiac landscape main-

tain, in spite of its intense and

varied colouring, the mosaic tex-

ture that the original design

bears. This intricate but fine work

complements the velvety blue in-

terior in a very unexpected way.

Two floral motifs that stand with-

in that central space mediate.

Khairat even works on the actual

raised frame of the painting, fill-

ing it with coloured dots to fully

unify the work.

Some blooms that evolve from

a calligraphic ground follow a

realistic trend. Highly sensitive,

she assists them with a soft halo

of shading. Her excellence is in

the fact that she seems to always

arrive to a point where you can

neither add to, nor take away

from her painting, and that is the

absolute definition of good art.

Khairat has drawn designs for

plates with a mixture of fluid

floral garlands, floral bouquets

set in compartments and geometric

motifs and calligraphy. All these

circumambulate a central motif

that protrudes beyond the

cavetto, arresting the undulating

movement.

She incorporates designs of the

blue Ottoman tiles in gold leaf

frames. She also uses gilt gauf-

rage (a raised surface within the

paper painted gold) as a frame of

portraits from 'One Thousand

and One Night'. The gaufrage de-

picting vines swirling in Arabes-

que forms as in Greek and Byzan-

tinian mosaics.

Although she sticks faithfully

to the traditions of old manu-

scripts and illuminations, margin

and all, Khairat manages, some-

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Some blooms that evolve from a calligraphic ground follow a realistic trend. Highly sensitive, she assists them with a soft halo of shading. Her excellence is in the fact that she seems to always arrive to a point where you can neither add to, nor take away from her painting, and that is the absolute definition of good art.

Khairat has drawn designs for plates with a mixture of fluid floral garlands, floral bouquets set in compartments and geometric motifs and calligraphy. All these circumambulate a central motif that protrudes beyond the cavetto, arresting the undulating movement.

She incorporates designs of the blue Ottoman tiles in gold leaf frames. She also uses gilt gaufrage (a raised surface within the paper painted gold) as a frame of portraits from 'One Thousand and One Night'. The gaufrage depicting vines swirling in Arabesque forms as in Greek and Byzantine mosaics.

Although she sticks faithfully to the traditions of old manuscripts and illuminations, margin and all, Khairat manages, sometimes, to arrive to very contemporary arrangements. Her works, exhibited reasonably, gained great acclaim from the Jordanian Public.

By Mohammed M. Asfour

AMMAN — It is neither unfamiliar nor rare to hear a mother, or father, boasting that their son or daughter has just graduated with a degree, often referring to their offspring as Dr. or Engineer with an x or y specialisation. Similarly, parents are proud to announce that a university graduate has proposed to their daughter. However, if the future son-in-law is without a diploma, then the announcement is made with a subdued voice without much elaboration.

Has the "Diploma Virus" reached epidemic proportions in our society? The answer is a definitive yes'. The idea of having a university degree has become such a preoccupation that it is no longer a means but is in itself an end. In most cases, parents and social standards combine to exert a lot of pressure on the young to pursue a degree regardless of the financial strain or the psychological suffering. So much so, that these pressures have encouraged some people to use crooked means in order to obtain their diplomas.

Successive generations have looked upon a degree as a symbol of success and achievement, and a passport to a good job. So, they pursued it hoping to improve their standard of living, seemingly oblivious to the fact that success, creativity and genius do not come by way of a diploma, but through hard work, tireless toil, true and continuous effort and by seeking perfection in doing a job regardless of its nature or location. It was in the 1980s, that this proverbial 'Virus' first appeared.

In that decade, most Arab and Islamic countries were going through a period of political turmoil with subsequent financial instability. People lived in a state of restlessness and the average income was quite low, and, therefore, so was the standard of living. A university education was then regarded as a means of improving social status and increasing one's income. This period coincided with the beginning of the implementation of Development Plans in Jordan, and the discovery of oil in the Arabian Gulf countries, which resulted in a high demand for university graduates of all levels and disciplines, to fill the newly created vacuum. Consequently, the standard of living rose sharply and the conviction of the feasibility and advantage of a higher education was strengthened to reach an all-time high, fuelled by people's greed for a better life and the luxury of financial stability resulting from an increased income.

The availability of employment

Qatar to sign \$400m gas loan next week

BAHRAIN (R) — Qatar will sign a \$400 million loan to help finance development of its giant North Field gas reservoir on Dec. 11, ending a nine-month delay, Gulf-based bankers said.

The bankers said the rise in oil prices since the three-year loan was first mooted had most likely alleviated the immediate need for financing through borrowing.

"Nothing happened to make it... need to borrow disappear," one Gulf banker said. "With oil prices firming, there was probably no pressure to conclude the deal," he said.

Mideast oil prices have averaged at \$15-\$16 a barrel in 1989 compared with about \$13 the previous year.

Qatar National Bank, agent for Qatar General Petroleum Corp

(QGPC), would sign in Doha on behalf of the 60-odd banks taking part, the bankers said.

The loan, which was initially to have been signed in March, is priced at a margin of 22.5 basis points above the London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR).

Another reason for the delay

was the country's inexperience with such large loans and several levels of authorisation had been required, the bankers said.

Qatar, a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), depends on oil revenue for most of its income

Arab oil producers criticise World Energy Conference

KUWAIT (AP) — The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) complained Monday the recent World Energy Conference (WEC) neglected issues affecting its Arab members and other developing countries.

OAPEC said though more than 90 countries were represented at the 14th World Energy Conference in Montreal, only two per cent of the participants, the papers presented and the committee members were from Arab countries.

"The 14th congress was dominated by the views of the industrial countries. Discussions consequently focused on non-oil energy sources and attempts to shift away from petroleum under the pretext of energy conservation," said an editorial in the December issue of OAPEC's Monthly Bulletin.

It added that "environmental issues concentrated almost exclusively on reducing dependence on oil."

It complained that such issues as the energy supplies needed by non-oil producing developing countries were largely ignored.

The editorial also said pollution issues, such as the discharge of waste by oil tankers, of concern to developing countries were also disregarded.

The 11-member OAPEC, which is based in Kuwait, groups Algeria, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well as Bahrain, Egypt, Syria and Tunisia. The first seven are also members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

"As an Arab organisation concerned with energy, it is pertinent for us to consider the impact of

the conference's conclusions on the developing countries, and the Arab countries in particular, since the latter will continue to be a major source of world oil and gas supplies for many decades," OAPEC said.

The editorial attributed the meager Arab leverage at the WEC to the small number of Arab countries that are full members.

It urged Arab and other developing countries to seek full membership at the next meeting due to be held in the Spanish capital, Madrid, in 1992.

"More effort must be exerted to give a greater role to the oil exporting developing countries and other developing countries, so that the conference's deliberations may represent the views of a larger proportion of the world's population than just the industrial nations" OAPEC said.

Zloty goes further down

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — The National Bank of Poland devalued the Polish zloty by 9.5 per cent Monday, continuing a drive to create a convertible currency that would encourage Western

economic investment.

The new rate is 4,200 zlotys to the dollar, compared with 3,800 a week ago. The zloty was devalued similarly against other Western currencies.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell
French franc	105.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	44.2
South African rand	45.7
Swiss franc	32.5
U.S. dollar	643.2
U.S. dollar	1015.4
U.S. dollar	361.3
U.S. dollar	403.4
U.S. dollar	407.4
U.S. dollar	171.7
U.S. dollar	173.4

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.5665/75	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1645/55	Canadian dollar
	1.7763/70	Deutschmarks
2.0010/20		Dutch guilders
1.5930/40		Swiss francs
37.2630		Belgian francs
6.0650/0700		French francs
1308/1310		Italian lire
143.35/45		Japanese yen
6.3625/75		Swedish crowns
6.8000/50		Norwegian crowns
6.8900/50		Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	410.00/410.50	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Renewed hopes of a fall in interest rates pushed Australia's share market to its strongest daily gain in more than a month. The All Ordinaries Index closed up 21.8 at 1646.4.

TOKYO — Tokyo share prices erased Friday's losses, jumping to a record close in brisk trading. The Nikkei Index surged 17.19 to end at 37,303.87.

HONG KONG — Share prices closed firmer but off earlier highs on lack of trading interest, brokers said. The Hang Seng Index rose 10.56 points to close at 2,767.46.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed firmer on continued foreign and institutional buying support despite scattered profit-taking. The Straits Times Index rose 10.21 points to close at 1,426.92.

BOMBAY — Equities rose sharply as opposition National Front leader Vishwanath Pratap Singh assumed charge as India's new prime minister, brokers said.

FRANKFURT — Sunday's resignation of East German Communist Party leadership and the positive outcome of the superpowers summit attracted foreign buying to boost prices. The Dax Index rose 1.4 per cent to close at 1,634.31.

ZURICH — Swiss shares closed quietly firmer. Dealers said a slighter higher Wall Street was a supportive factor but high Swiss interest rates later depressed prices. The All-Share Index rose 2.3 per cent.

PARIS — French share prices were sharply higher at midday on steady demand for blue chips. The CAC Index was up 21.71 points at 1,941.43 by 1245 GMT.

LONDON — Share prices in late trading stood near the day's lows after nine consecutive days of gains. By 1630 the FTSE Index was 10.0 points down at 2,301.1.

NEW YORK — Uncertainty and concern about the business outlook held buyers and sellers to a stand-off with the market little changed overall. The Dow was near its closing Friday at 2748.50 and decliners were even with gainers.



Jordanian officials express desire to expand economic relations to a Syrian trade delegation currently visiting Jordan (Petra photo)

Jordan stresses economic cooperation with Syria

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Ziyad Innab Monday stressed Jordan's intention to go ahead with plans to remove all obstacles that impede trade between Jordan and Syria and to pave the way for further investments in joint projects.

The minister was speaking at a meeting with Mr. Badraddin Al Shallah, president of the Syrian Federation of Chambers of Trade and his accompanying delegation.

Referring to Jordanian-Syrian trade talks which started

here Sunday, Innab said they were in implementation of resolutions by the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee which supervises and directs matters related to integration between the two countries' trade and industrial fields.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Industry and Trade were present at the meeting.

Shallah and his delegation Sunday opened talks with the Federation of Jordanian Chamber of Commerce to discuss economic and trade issues.

agreements in industry and trade, the minister said they form a framework within which organisations in the two countries can operate to promote trade exchanges and enhance bilateral economic cooperation.

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Coup mars Manila image

MANILA (R) — The Philippine attempted coup has put into jeopardy economic gains so far achieved by President Corazon Aquino's government and shattered investors' confidence in a country bidding to industrialise within the next decade.

Businessmen and bankers said that while the coup attempt was not likely to affect official lending and aid to the Philippines, it marked a major setback to Aquino's economic recovery programme.

Aquino, who has survived five earlier coup attempts since being swept to power in a popular revolt in 1986, has been wooing foreign investment, saying the country was now politically stable, communist insurgency was under control, and the economy had staged a remarkable turnaround.

But the mutiny had shaken investor confidence and put in doubt the economy's capacity for a rebound.

"Even if unsuccessful, this incident will only make local and foreign investors wary of the country," said Felix Maranba, president of Liberty Flour Mills.

"People who were considering putting any money into the Philippines will certainly hold back," said Pauline Dallas, senior economist with Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers.

"It's too early to say whether we will see direct investors pulling out, but we can say at this stage they will delay their investment decisions," she added.

Foreign governments have expressed unequivocal support for Aquino, who they see as a champion of democracy.

The United States, which had provided military support to Manila, threatened to cut off aid to the country if Aquino was overthrown, raising the spectre of an economic collapse should other governments withhold financial aid.

Just before the coup most foreign businessmen agreed with Aquino that the Philippines was a good bet for investment.

"The Philippines stands poised for greater progress," a confident Aquino told U.S. oilmen in Texas on Nov. 11 during a visit to the United States and Canada.

On Saturday, Aquino told a news conference the work of rebuilding confidence would now have to start all over again.

"The image of stability and steady progress we had sought to give our country has been severely compromised," a grim-faced president said. "The cost, which we have begun to tally, is staggering."

Already there are signs of jitteriness in Taiwan, whose cash-rich businessmen looking for overseas investments are pouring money into the country.

"Many investors are expected to take a wait-and-see attitude toward investing in the Philippines," an official of the Taiwan government's Investment Commission said.

A Japanese executive said

Tokyo investors who were eyeing the Philippines for their projects will now look at the country differently.

"I think they will look at the Philippines now not only twice but three times," he said.

In Tokyo, the financial daily Nihon Keizai Shinbun said Sony Corporation has decided to postpone construction of an audio machine factory near Manila because the rebellion showed the weakness of the Aquino government.

It said the company had bought property for the factory only last month.

The Philippine economy was expected to grow by 5.8 per cent in 1989 from a robust 6.7 per cent last year. Officials had forecast the economy would rebound in 1990 as investments surged.

Equity investments approved by the Board of Investments almost trebled to \$32.41 billion pesos (\$1.54 billion) in the first nine months of the year compared with \$12.56 billion (about \$600 million) a year earlier.

Of the amount, 13.8 billion pesos (\$660 million) was foreign equity as against 7.07 billion pesos (\$336 million) last year.

Jose Cusia, a member of the Manila panel which negotiated with commercial banks for fresh funds, said the coup was not expected to delay the financing package.

"Most of the major creditor banks have indicated their new money pledges to the country and I don't think their banks will back out because of this incident," he said.

In New York, the first Philippine fund fell sharply on news of the coup attempt.

Israel puts foot into Soviet door

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel is to export food to the Soviet Union. Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz announced Sunday after making the first ministerial visit since Moscow cut ties with Israel in 1967.

He said Israel's state marketing board signed contracts to supply fruit and vegetables worth \$30 million to the Moscow Soviet (municipality) over the next six months.

The deal, concluded during a week-long visit, was a further sign of the Kremlin's warming relations with Israel, despite a statement by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev last week ruling out an early resumption of full diplomatic relations.

Katz-Oz told an airport news conference the Moscow deal was only an opening towards much larger Israeli agricultural exports to the Soviet Union that would allow Israeli farmers to increase acreage and output.

"I have put my foot into the door, which is now open," he said, adding that the produce would be paid for in dollars.

Soviet aircraft, expected to begin direct flights between Tel Aviv and Moscow later this month, would transport the produce — tomatoes, potatoes, onions, citrus, bananas, apples and strawberries.

The Moscow Soviet is responsible for supplying food to 15 million residents of the Soviet capital district. Fresh fruit and vegetables are notoriously scarce during winter.

The Israeli delegation signed an agreement to set up a modern dairy with Israeli equipment at a large Kolkhoz (collective farm) 30 kilometres from Moscow, Katz-Oz said.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Suhelmat meets Canadian officials

AMMAN (Petra) — The director of industrial cooperation for the Near East and North Africa region at the Canadian Agency for International Development met here Monday with Dr. Fayez Suhelmat, director-general of the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC). They discussed the agency's aid to Jordan. Suhelmat briefed the visitor on the investment climate in the Kingdom specifically in the Sahab Industrial City. Later, the two officials called at the Sahab Industrial City and inspected two of the industrial plants which were set up in cooperation with Canadian firms.

Tanzania devalues currency by 17%

DAR ES SALAAM (AP) — The Bank of Tanzania announced a 17 per cent devaluation in the shilling Sunday and said the shilling went from 157 shillings to the dollar to 190 shillings to the dollar. The bank said the Tanzanian currency would fall to around 200 shillings to the dollar by January. The devaluation is part of an International Monetary Fund structural adjustment programme to rejuvenate Tanzania's economy, which has been shattered by 20 years of socialist policies, rising world oil prices and falling commodity prices.

Italian doctors want pay rise

ROME (R) — Hospital doctors began a series of pay strikes Monday that are expected to cripple Italy's state-run health service over the next few weeks. The Cosmed Union, representing 55,000 doctors, withdrew non-essential services for the day, and plans more strikes on Dec. 14 and 15, union officials said. Another union, Cimo, has called a two-day strike for Tuesday and Wednesday and a three-day stoppage from Dec. 18. The protest follows deadlock in talks on a new contract to replace an agreement which expired two years ago and has not been replaced. Public Administration Minister Remo Gaspari has rejected union demands for salary rises of up to 45 per cent, saying they would lead to a public sector wage spiral that would bankrupt Italy within months. The doctors are also protesting about government plans to reform the inefficient and costly health service. Unions say the reforms would punish those least able to pay for treatment.

ACC housing experts open talks

AMMAN

Sports

Edberg wins Masters tournament

NEW YORK (AP) — Stefan Edberg first frustrated, then defeated Boris Becker to capture his first Masters title Sunday and halt the expected ascension of the man who would be king.

This was supposed to be Becker's show, the moment when the big-serving West German would replace Ivan Lendl as the king of tennis. Instead, the quietly effective Edberg gained a huge measure of revenge as he captured the crown 4-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-3, 6-1.

And it came one day after the Swede shocked Lendl in the semifinals.

"I played some of the best tennis of my life," Edberg said. "You have to beat those two guys two days in a row."

The title in the season-ending tournament was the perfect tonic for Edberg, who has seemed all year to fall just one victory short.

"There's been a lot of frustrations for me," he said. "I've lost a lot of finals."

Sunday wasn't one of them. Edberg defused Becker's power, fought off a set point against him in the second set, then began dominating the strawberry-blond right-hander.

"I picked up my game and he lost his rhythm," Edberg said.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: An extremely good day and evening for making plans to expand your interests and activities, whether they be spiritual, physical, mental or manual. Innovative ideas from others prove to be most useful now.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Home duties require more than usual of your time and energy. Go to as many interesting places as possible with your attachment now.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You have the chance to do a wonderful service for a good friend. Entertaining at home today will bring brilliant results.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Don't allow an outside associate to come into your home and cause some trouble. Stop, look and listen before being sarcastic or upset at home.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Look to the overall aspects of your business and not to the petty details. An opportunity is present to show special affection for your loved one.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) If you are in need of business advice, a good friend will extend it to you. Be careful in any travelling with your attachment now.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A day not to call friends who take advantage of your generosity. Much conversation with your attachment can iron out any problems.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A private conversation with a devoted friend will bring excellent results. Enjoy all the multitudes of activity in your home today.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) For happiest times cultivate friends from a distance and entertain them. Invite your associates from the outside into your home and entertain them lavishly.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Younger helpful persons are the ones to invite into your home now. You should have more fun on your vacation than you have for sometime.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Compliment your family by

taking them out on the town for a good time. You can not show too much affection for your attachment at this time.

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"While Lendl has ruled the men's roost, fighting off would-be contenders to the throne, Becker and Edberg have quietly built up a formidable rivalry. Becker is ranked second in the world and Edberg third.

While Becker is flamboyant, boasting his way to three Wimbledon and one U.S. Open titles, Edberg has quietly amassed two Australian Open crowns and one Wimbledon championship.

This was the 21st career meeting between the two, with yet another clash scheduled for Dec. 15-17 in the Davis Cup finals in Stuttgart, West Germany.

Edberg outlasted Becker in a five-set semifinals at the French Open. But Becker was victorious in the finals at Wimbledon and the Paris indoor tournament.

On Friday, in the last day of the Round-Robin Masters format, Becker had crushed Edberg

6-1, 6-4.

"It's a pity I couldn't win the last match here," Becker said Sunday. "But I beat him two days ago."

That match didn't count when it came time to battle for the title.

It was the weight of Becker's shots, the sheer velocity of the ball coming off the West German's racket that bothered Edberg in the opening set, just as it had finished off John McEnroe

in Saturday's semifinals.

But Edberg countered that by taking the pace off the ball. Becker, whose timing was impeccable off the ground on the hard-paced balls, repeatedly found the net when trying to hit the off-speed deliveries by Edberg. And, when Becker finally did adjust, Edberg found the passing lanes with his strong, flat strokes.

Edberg actually jumped on top when he broke Becker in the second game of the match. Becker began his first service game of the match with a double-fault, and the Swede made him pay for

it. But Becker broke right back in the third game and sailed through the next point on Becker's serve.

Becker reached set point when Edberg netted a backhand in the third game and won his second set.

The second set began like the first: Edberg breaking Becker in the third game and Becker breaking right back.

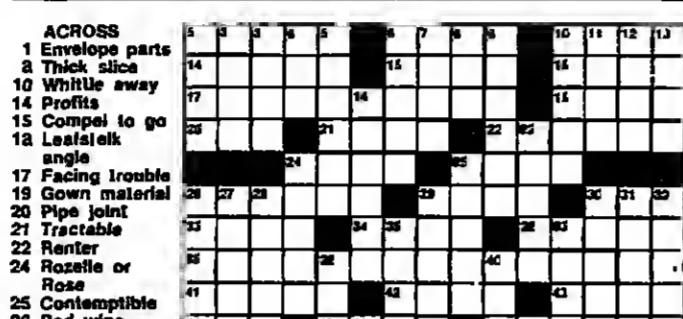
This time, the two battled into a tiebreaker, which Edberg started with a double-fault, his second of the match. But Becker couldn't take advantage of the "mini-break" as the Swede slammed a backhand service return that Becker sent wide.

Again Edberg double-faulted. But he followed with his second ace of the match, then won the next point on Becker's serve.

Becker reached set point when Edberg netted a backhand in the third game and won his second set.

With the victory, Edberg becomes the 10th winner of the Masters, and the second Swede. Bjorn Borg won the tournament in 1980-81.

THE Daily Crossword by C.F. Murray



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



British Ladies of Amman

Morning meeting - 6 December
Amra Hotel - 10 a.m.
Afternoon meeting - 13 December
Amra Hotel - 4 p.m.
Speaker



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Maradona understudy spurs Napoli to victory

By Reuters

AN OBSCURE understudy to Diego Maradona emerged as Napoli's new hero after spurring the Italian league leaders to a sparkling 3-1 win against Atalanta on Sunday and a four-point lead at the top of the table.

Gianfranco Zola, a third division player two seasons ago, filled the number 10 shirt of the famous Argentine with total aplomb and completed the rout by scoring his first goal in division one, a curling shot from the edge of the area.

Zola ceded his place to Maradona, who was nursing a back strain, for the final 10 minutes of the match and then said he owed his success to the Argentine ace.

"If I scored it's also thanks to him. He told me things that fired me up but don't go comparing us for goodness sake," said the 23-year-old Sardinian.

The victory, which included goals from Massimo Crippa and Brazilian Careca, was the perfect tonic for UEFA cup holders Napoli as who beat them into a crunch third round tie against Werder Bremen on Wednesday, when Maradona is expected to play.

In the Netherlands, Feyenoord took advantage of icy conditions to restore their tarnished reputation with a shock 4-0 home victory against defending champions PSV Eindhoven.

It was the most convincing win over PSV in 25 years for Feyenoord, who have been languishing at the bottom of the table.

Behind the top duo the chase has virtually ceased, as third placed Sochaux, beaten 1-0 at Paris Saint-Germain, are now lying 10 points behind Bordeaux.

In the Spanish league Real Madrid maintained their three-point lead despite a goalless draw to modest Celta in Vigo. Valencia beat Barcelona 2-1, leapfrogging the Catalonians to share second place with Real Sociedad.

Real Madrid coach John Toshack said the draw was a

Roda JC but with a game in hand.

Bordeaux and Marseille continued their exclusive duel at the top of the league in France, where a long tradition ended at the weekend.

To see spectators the rigours of cold evenings, clubs played on a Sunday afternoon for the first time in more than 20 years.

Bordeaux kept their three-point lead by beating Montpellier 2-0, but their performance was overshadowed by that of Marseille and their star-striker Jean-Pierre Papin.

The French champions crushed fourth-placed Toulouse 6-1 as Papin scored a hat-trick to bring his goal tally to 15.

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success given that his players were still tired from their Spanish cup victory over Atletico Madrid last week.

Atletico, smarting from their team elimination, were held to a goalless home draw against Real Sociedad.

Atletico coach Javier Clemente had no comforting words for his team, who slipped to sixth place. "We lacked punch, rhythm, control, nerves. We did not deserve to win," he said.

The constant reshuffle at the head of the West German first division continued as Bayer Leverkusen, 2-0 winners over Nuremberg, replaced Cologne at the top with 25 points from 18 matches.

Bayern Munich, Eintracht Frankfurt and Cologne are lurking, in that order, just one point behind.

Among West Germany's quartet in UEFA cup action this week, only VFB Stuttgart, who receive Antwerp, 2-0 winners over Nuremberg, replaced Cologne 3-1.

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Comaneci says she fled without medals, farewells

LONDON (AP) — Olympic gymnast Nadia Comaneci has told a newspaper that she fled Romania in search of freedom without her 21 gold medals, a photograph of her family or even a last farewell to her parents.

The Miami on Sunday said it interviewed Comaneci in New York on Saturday night. It did not reveal her current whereabouts.

Some news reports have said Comaneci was going to Miami, others speculated her destination was Indianapolis, Houston or Orlando, Florida.

Patti Aver, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Gymnastics Federation, said officials of the organization had flown to New York to speak with Comaneci but could not contact her.

Aver said the federation wanted to set up a meeting between Comaneci and her former coach, Bela Karolyi, now lives in Houston.

Karolyi, who had been in Europe with the U.S. women's gymnastics team, was scheduled to arrive in Chicago Monday.

quoted the 28-year-old Comaneci as saying.

"And last Sunday (Nov. 26) night, we decided to make it work. We left my parents' home in Bucharest and in a hire (rental) car headed for the town of Timisoara near the Huogaria border."

"I could tell on one I was escaping," she was quoted as saying. "I could not say goodbye to my parents. I even had to lie to my brother. I was frightened, of course I was. I was scared of being picked up by the Romanian authorities. My fear was kept at bay by my determination."

Karolyi, who I met two years ago, came to Romania on Nov. 6 and secretly mentioned his plan to me at the birthday party of a friend," the newspaper

quoted her as saying.

"It was midnight when we

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Singh promises more aid for poor

NEW DELHI (R) — V.P. Singh, in his first address as India's new prime minister, has promised to devote half of government resources to villages, where most of the country's 810 million people live.

He also said an independent agency would be set up to investigate corruption, following a scandal over alleged bribes paid by Swedish arms manufacturer Bofors to win a \$1.3-billion artillery contract.

The scandal was one of the main factors leading to the election defeat of Singh's predecessor, Rajiv Gandhi, in the general election last month.

"Even the prime minister is not above such scrutiny," Singh, who was sworn in Saturday, said in his televised speech Sunday. "Our democracy has to be liberated from the evil influence of money power."

He pledged that "if power is a sword, it will be wielded on behalf of the poor and toiling masses."

"India lives in its villages. Today, there is flight of wealth, labour and talent from these villages. As long as this continues, villages will be economically weak," said Singh, an adopted member of a minor princely family.

"We have resolved that at least half of the government resources will be channelled to rural areas," added Singh, who was finance minister and briefly defence minister in the Gandhi government. He resigned in April 1987 amid a furore over his probe into the Bofors scandal.

Singh promised to forgive the debts of landless farmers and rural workers, and to introduce legislation to devolve power from



V.P. Singh

the central government to the villages.

"The fire of hunger can be extinguished by food. But the fire that ignites the mind of the disaffected can only culminate in revolution," he declared.

Singh heads a fragile minority government that depends on the support of two groups that detest each other — the left-wing Marxist parties and the right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party.

Singh said state-run television and radio, which the opposition accused of being a mouthpiece of Gandhi's Congress Party, "would be given autonomy."

He spoke of the violent and bitter campaign that ousted Congress for only the second time since independence from Britain in 1947.

"After the truce is declared, the intimidation begins," Interior Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said Sunday. But he noted that if the government did not meet drug trafficker's demands, "the attacks, the bombings and the assassinations" would begin again.

The Medellin cocaine cartel announced that from Monday it would observe a "ceasefire" in its territorial offensive in order to convince Congress to approve a national referendum on the government's extradition policy.

President Virgilio Barco reinstated the extradition of Colombian drug suspects to the United States as part of a crackdown against the cocaine cartels that began Aug. 18.

Since then, the administration has extradited nine suspects, and traffickers have used a bombing campaign to try to pressure the government into ending the congressional issues.

The Extraditables want extradition to be included on the referendum, according to Morales Ballesteros as saying he learned the Extraditables group was declaring the unilateral truce to support a motion by the house's first congressional commission to include extradition on a referendum scheduled for Jan. 21 on constitutional issues.

The Extraditables want extradition to be included on the referendum, according to Morales Ballesteros. But President Barco says a referendum on that issue would cause a bloodbath.

"We will continue battling them because if we don't, we will cease to govern," said the minister, who is acting president while Barco is on a 4-day official visit to Japan.

After a farewell ceremony for Barco at Bogota's El Dorado airport Sunday, Lemos Simmonds repeated the government's opposition to an extradition on the referendum, Lemos Simmonds said.

If the government accepted this proposal, the country would be killed since the front began attacking the government to protest an Indian sponsored peace accord that was aimed at pacifying Tamil secessionists in the northeast.

As the attacks escalated, so did the killings of young Sinhalese described by the government as suspected members of the front. The government blamed most of these killings on pro-government vigilante groups, but opposition politicians and human rights activists said some of the killings were carried out by government forces.

The front also protested the presence of Indian peacekeeping soldiers, deployed to supervise the accord signed in July 1987.

India has promised to withdraw all troops by Dec. 31.

More than 1,100 Indian soldiers have died in Sri Lanka, mostly in battles with the largest Tamil rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The Tigers initially accepted the pact but quickly reneged and returned to the bush.

In their latest attack, the Tigers ambushed and killed four members of a 12-man Indian patrol near Trincomalee, about 240 kilometres northeast of Sri Lanka, military officials said.

Tamil make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people and are mostly Hindus. They complain of discrimination in jobs and education by the Sinhalese-dominated government.

Sinhalese are mostly Buddhists and make up 75 per cent of the population.

More than 10,000 Sri Lankans have been killed since the Tamil insurgency started in 1983.

60 Sinhalese rebels surrender

COLOMBO (R) — Sixty more Sinhalese radicals have surrendered, bringing to 160 the number of extremists who have accepted the government's amnesty offer, the state-run radio said Monday.

Radio Rupavahini said there would be no extension of the amnesty offer that was announced Friday and scheduled to end at 6 p.m. (0030 GMT) Monday. The latest surrenders were reported during the last 24 hours, it said.

Sri Lankan air force helicopters dropped about 350,000 pamphlets over rebels strongholds in central and southern Sri Lanka Sunday, assuring the radicals of safety if they surrendered, the radio said.

It said camps have been set up in temples and police stations to receive the rebels of the People's Liberation Front (PLP), an ultra-nationalist group that has been trying to overthrow the government since 1987.

The amnesty was the first offered by the government since security forces killed the front's top leaders last month. Although earlier amnesties led to hundreds of surrenders, the violence continued.

A government statement said from activists killed two policemen and a soldier in separate attacks Sunday and early Monday.

It said troops shot to death two radicals and captured another during the same period. The statement from the information department did not give details.

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been killed since the front began attacking the government to protest an Indian sponsored peace accord that was aimed at pacifying Tamil secessionists in the northeast.

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Le Pen's party notches a win

PARIS (R) — National concern over immigration has put an end to 18 months of political exile for France's National Front, landing the ultra-right party a much-needed seat in parliament.

The anti-immigrant, anti-tax party, crushed in general elections last year, gained a new lease of life Sunday when it triumphed in the final round of a by-election in the western town of Dreux and came a close second in Marseille.

Marie-France Stéphane, widow of a prominent National Front leader, won an overwhelming 61 per cent of the vote in Dreux, with the mainstream RPR Right polling just 39 per cent.

She will be the only National Front member in the 577-seat National Assembly.

In Marseille, extreme right candidate Marie-Claude Rousset polled 47 per cent, just behind the centrist UDF with 53 per

cent. But the National Front scored locally further north, winning a district council election in Salon-de-Provence.

"This a moment of national importance," said party leader Jean-Marie Le Pen.

Political analysts said the party has benefited from a drawn-out debate over whether the daughters of North African immigrants should be allowed to wear their Muslim headscarves in class, defining French education's secular tradition.

The issue first cropped up two months ago in a school in the northern town of Creil and the controversy it stirred over acceptable levels of immigration, Islamic fundamentalism and problems of integration still burns.

The latest vote was a slap in the face for the socialist government and their Communist allies.

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E. Germans hope for better future

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germans, huddled but hopeful after political upheaval which has toppled a discredited Communist leadership, offered widely differing predictions Monday for the future of a once-challenged ruling party.

Some believed Sunday's mass resignations sounded the Communist Party's death-knell.

Others thought the party might be able to transform itself into a social democratic party, while some felt it might settle for a back-seat role as a minor group on the political scene.

"It is chaos, isn't it?" asked Gaby Mueller, a 34-year-old teacher from Karl-Marx-Stadt, in the south-west of the country, who was visiting the capital

with her family.

Party leader Egon Krenz and the entire Communist hierarchy voted themselves out of office in Sunday's upheaval and expelled from their ranks former leader Erich Honecker, who built the Berlin Wall, and 11 other old guard leaders.

Mueller swept her red coat tighter around her against the cold wind on East Berlin's mammoth Alexander Square, built in the 1960s as a tribute to the socialist worker's state.

The party's disintegration climaxed weeks of high political drama in which borders with the West were opened and the wall was breached, allowing hundreds of thousands of East Germans to stream into West Germany to meet their kinsmen.

"If anyone had predicted

this eight weeks ago he would have been taken for mad," Mueller said.

"Soon there won't be any Communist Party," said Klaus Mueller, her 34-year-old husband who is a sports teacher.

"Hopefully something good

will come out of this and that there will be a new labour party," he said.

"Maybe it will become a social democratic party," Gaby Mueller said. "I have great faith in (reformist Premier Hans) Modrow."

"The name of the party is immaterial," Klaus Mueller said. "The important thing is the programme."

East Germans interviewed in the street believed the party would never dominate the political scene again.

"The party will either dis-

solve itself or if it continues to exist it will play a minor role," said Peter Eggert. "I think either way this will allow the Liberal Democrats and the Social Democrats to take on a larger role in politics."

The Liberal Democrats (LDPD) are one of four small parties in a Communist-led coalition, while the Social Democrats (SPD) are one of a handful of reform groups formed in recent weeks.

Eggert said he did not be-

lieve Modrow, the Communists' leading reformer and widely respected across the board, would manage to steer the country out of crisis.

East Germans interviewed in the street believed the party would never dominate the political scene again.

"The party will either dis-

People expressed outrage at the corruption among hardline former Communist leaders now being exposed.

"We had an inkling there was corruption but we never thought it was so widespread," Klaus Mueller said.

The arrests of two politicians

— ex-economy chief Guenter Mittag and one-time trade union boss Harry Tisch — for defrauding the state was warmly welcomed by people in the street.

But old suspicions lingered.

"I would like to know what jail they are in," said Karin Grabe, a 45-year-old engineer.

"I would assume they have not been put in an ordinary jail but in a fine prison for party officials — probably watching TV in their cells," she sneered.

Column 8

Thief returns stolen car with boy

ROYAL OAK, Michigan (AP) —

A thief apparently drove away in a stolen car without noticing a quadriplegic 10-year-old boy in the back seat, but the boy was found unharmed in the parked car nearly three hours later.

Curtis Michael Walker and his

father's rented 1990 Lincoln town

car were recovered Monday in the neighbouring Detroit suburb of Birmingham, police said.

"I imagine it was merely a crime of opportunity where someone saw that brand new car and wanted to steal it," Royal Oak police Lieutenant Don Novak said. "I assume they did not realise the child was in the back seat. It turned out to be a happy ending."

The Reverend Curtis Walker of Riverview had placed his son in the back seat and left the car running outside a rehabilitation clinic for a few minutes while he went inside to help his wife, Peggy, to the car.

Novak said, "I did not realise the child was in the back seat. It turned out to be a happy ending."

The Reverend Curtis Walker of Riverview had placed his son in the back seat and left the car running outside a rehabilitation clinic for a few minutes while he went inside to help his wife, Peggy, to the car.

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